

Serial No. 09/625,889
Page 2

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (Original) A method for managing adjunct access for a circuit in a network management system, the method comprising the step of:
providing a respective manageable link representing each non-managed portion of the circuit, responsive to a determination that a non-managed portion of the circuit exists.
2. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein each respective manageable link is coupled to at least one of a Digital Cross Connect (DCS), a Light wave Guided Cross Connects (LGX), and a Distribution Drop Point (DDP).
3. (Original) The method of claim 2, wherein each respective manageable link comprises at least one of a fiber optic cable, a twisted copper pair, and a coaxial cable.
4. (Original) The method of claim 2, wherein said links comprise at least one of a digital carrier and an optical carrier.
5. (Currently Amended) A method for designing a continuous circuit, comprising the steps of:
determining whether a non-managed portion of a circuit exists; and
providing a link between each non-managed portion of the circuit and proximate managed portions of the circuit, said link being characterized as a managed carrier link by a network management system.
6. (Original) The method of claim 5, wherein said links are coupled to at least one of:
a Digital Cross Connect (DCS), a Light wave Guided Cross Connects (LGX), and a Distribution Drop Point (DDP).

Serial No. 09/625,889
Page 3

7. (Original) The method of claim 6, wherein said links comprise at least one of:
a fiber optic cable, a twisted copper pair, and a coaxial cable.
8. (Original) The method of claim 6, wherein said links comprise at least one of:
a digital carrier and an optical carrier.
9. (Currently Amended) A method comprising the steps of:
receiving a request to provision a circuit;
selecting a path for said circuit within a network comprising a plurality of network elements;
assigning links bridging non-managed portions of said circuit path; and
characterizing said assigned links as carriers managed carrier links.
10. (Original) The method of claim 9, further comprising the step of:
determining if cross-connect network elements exist for bridging non-managed portions of said circuit path to managed portions of said circuit path;
and
assigning available cross-connect network elements to appropriate links bridging non-managed portions of said circuit.
11. (Original) The method of claim 9, wherein said non-managed portions of said network comprise at least one of adjunct access facilities or leased facilities.
12. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for designing a continuous circuit, comprising:

Serial No. 09/625,889

Page 4

a processor and an associated storage device including instructions for controlling said processor, said instructions, when executed, causing said processor to perform the steps of:

determining whether a non-managed portion of a circuit exists; and providing a link between non-managed portions of the circuit and respective proximate managed portions of the circuit, said link being characterized as a managed carrier link by a network management system.

13. (Original) The apparatus of claim 12, wherein links are coupled to at least one of:

a Digital Cross Connect (DCS), a Light wave Guided Cross Connects (LGX), and a Distribution Drop Point (DDP).

14. (Original) The apparatus of claim 13, wherein said links comprise at least one of:

a fiber optic cable, a twisted copper pair, and a coaxial cable.

15. (Original) The apparatus of claim 13, wherein said links comprise at least one of:

a digital carrier, and an optical carrier.